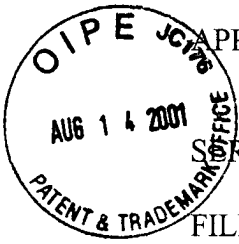


IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



APPLICANTS: Yang Xu and § GROUP ART UNIT: 3753  
Teresa Lechner-Fish §  
§  
SERIAL NO.: 09/538,455 § EXAMINER: A. Chambers  
§  
FILED: March 30, 2000 §  
§  
FOR: Improved Stream §  
Switching System §

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8-21-01

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED APRIL 9, 2001**

Commissioner for Patents  
ATTN: BOX AF  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Att'y. Docket No. 1787-06001  
Date: August 9, 2001

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated April 9, 2001, with respect to the above-identified application, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**AMENDMENT**

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 1 by replacement with rewritten claim 1, as follows. A marked-up version of the amended claims, showing the changes made by underlining of the added text and bracketing of the deleted text, is appended hereto.

Please cancel claims 18, 19, and 22.

1. (Twice Amended) A stream switching system, comprising:
- a stream switching housing having at least one common stream channel portion with a plurality of input ports and at least one output port;

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tubing connected at least one of said output ports,

said tubing at least in part being a pre-heat coil suitable to heat a gas sample traveling through said coil and to act as a flow restrictor, the extent of said flow restriction sufficient to restrict said sample flow to about 50-70 cc/min at 15 psig.

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